

## Summary: May 25, 2006 Board Meeting

The members of the Higher Education Coordinating Board met at Whitman College on May 25, 2006. Chairman Gene Colin presided. Highlights from the meeting include:

- **HECB welcomes its newest member:** Mr. Colin introduced the HECB's newest member, Charles "Charley" Bingham. Mr. Bingham is a retired executive vice president of Weyerhaeuser and a member of the steering committee for the Washington Learns Early Learning Advisory Committee. Gov. Gregoire appointed Mr. Bingham to a four-year term expiring June 30, 2010. As with all members of the HECB, Mr. Bingham's appointment is subject to confirmation by the state Senate.
- **Two new degree programs approved:** Washington State University's proposal to create a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Food Systems was unanimously approved. The board also voted unanimously to include an additional action item on the agenda: a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) from the University of Washington.

The proposed doctorate, which would train students to be nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and community health nurses, was unanimously approved. With implementation of the DNP program, the UW School of Nursing would gradually phase out practice-oriented nursing master's degrees in these fields. HECB Senior Associate Director for Academic Affairs Dr. Randy Spaulding and representatives from the UW responded to questions from the board about the proposed program.

- **Executive Director's Report:** Dr. Jim Sulton briefed the board on the ongoing Snohomish, Island, Skagit (SIS) county project; recent college and university application and enrollment trends; applied baccalaureate programs at two-year colleges; academic competitiveness grants; and the ongoing collaborative effort to develop a framework for transfer and articulation.
- **GET program enrollment:** Guaranteed Education Tuition Program Director Betty Lochner briefed the board on the program's increasing success and the challenges it faces in the future – particularly related to rising tuition rates.
- **State Need Grant eligibility for private career schools:** John Klacik, HECB director of student financial assistance and Rick Sinclair, director of finance and financial aid at ITT Technical Institute, reported on a collaborative effort between the HECB and the Washington Federation of Private Career Schools and Colleges to clarify State Need Grant eligibility requirements for private, for-profit institutions.

- **Revisions to the current higher education accountability framework and targets approved:** Chris Thompson, HECB director for government and university relations, and Debora Merle, higher education policy advisor to the governor, presented proposed revisions to the current higher education accountability framework, as well as targets proposed by the four-year public institutions and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. The board approved the resolution.
- **Proposal to award grants in high-demand programs approved:** The board unanimously approved the recommendations of the education committee to award \$900,000 in high-demand funds to seven proposals from the state's regional universities. HECB Deputy Director Joann Wiszmann provided a brief description of each of the programs that were selected by a review committee from a field of 11 proposals.
- **Board reaffirms its support of the Transition Mathematics Project:** Dr. Bill Moore, director of the Transition Mathematics Project (TMP) and Ricardo Sanchez, HECB associate director for academic affairs discussed the Transition Mathematics Project and College Readiness Mathematics Standards, which are designed to help high school graduates successfully complete entry-level college mathematics coursework. The board unanimously endorsed the standards and reaffirmed its continued support of the TMP as it enters Phase II of the project.
- **Proposed draft language and hearing schedule approved:** Board members unanimously voted to approve the proposed draft language and public hearing schedule to amend residency rules regarding student classification pertaining to Washington tribal members.

Materials presented at the meeting are available at: <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/boardmtgs/index.asp> and the full minutes of the May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting will be included in the July board meeting materials.

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Next meeting: July 27, 2006, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Grays Harbor Community College in Aberdeen.

- Biennial Review of Academic Enrollments, Programs, and Locations
- HECB 2007-09 Budget Request
- Transfer and Articulation Framework